



Australian Bureau of Statistics

1104.0 - Microdata News, May 2011

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 27/05/2011

CONTENTS



In this issue

Includes: **A new title; how to subscribe...**



New and upcoming CURF releases

Includes: **Participation in Sport, Patients' Experiences**



CURF price increase from 1 July

Includes: **Price rise of \$110 per CURF**



Survey TableBuilder - coming soon

Includes: **What it is and how it will help you**



Excellence in Customer Service Awards

Includes: **Help us recognise our outstanding employees**



Please tell us about your publications!

Includes: **list your work on our Published Research Using CURFs web page**

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In this issue

This issue of our Newsletter is graced with a new name! But readers are forgiven for not noticing the change - as all we have done drop the acronym "CURF" from the title. This change does not mean that CURFs are no longer an important output of the ABS - far from it. But it does acknowledge that ABS microdata products will soon include Survey TableBuilder datasets.

Survey TableBuilder is an online tool for creating tables and graphs from ABS survey data. Users of ABS Census TableBuilder will find that Survey TableBuilder has the same look and feel. The first Survey TableBuilder datasets will be released mid 2011, with the Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers 2003 and 2009, and the Survey of Education and Work 2010 the first cabs off the rank. Other datasets will follow progressively. Initially, Survey TableBuilder will provide population estimates based on categorical variables (such as age and sex) from ABS household survey data. Later in 2011 population estimates based on continuous variables (such as income) will be available.

If you or your colleagues want to keep up with the latest Microdata News, please subscribe. Click on the link and follow the prompts: [Subscribe to Microdata News](#)

Kim Farley-Larmour
Director, Microdata Access Strategies

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New and upcoming CURF releases

To receive information about a CURF on the day of its release, please subscribe to the free ABS Email Notification Service or the ABS RSS Feed. To apply for access to CURFs use the MiCRO online CURF application system web page.

Microdata: Participation in Sport and Physical Recreation, Expanded CURF, Australia, 2009-10 (cat. no. 4177.0.55.002)

Release: 21 March 2011

This Expanded CURF provides detailed data relating to Participation in Sport and Physical Recreation as collected in the 2009–10 Multipurpose Household Survey. It is available in the ABS Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL),

As well as general demographic data such as age, sex and country of birth, it contains a range of data items relating to the number and characteristics of people who participate in a variety of sport and physical activities. The data relate to persons aged 15 years and over who participated in sport and physical recreation activities as players, competitors or persons who physically undertook an activity.

The CURF enables users to tabulate, manipulate and analyse data to their individual specifications. Steps to confidentialise the data have been taken that ensures the confidentiality of respondents while at the same time maintaining the integrity of the data and optimising its content. This includes removing any information that might uniquely identify an individual and reducing the level of detail for some data items.

The publication, Technical Manual: Participation in Sport and Physical Recreation, Expanded CURF, Australia, 2009–10 (cat. no. 4177.0.55.001), explains the data content, technical details and conditions of use and should be used in conjunction with this CURF. An Excel spreadsheet listing all the data items available on the Expanded CURF accompanies the Technical Manual.

Microdata: Personal Safety Survey, Expanded CURF, Australia, 2005 (Reissue) (cat. no. 4906.0.55.00)

Release: 21 April 2011

This Expanded CURF is a comprehensive unit record file providing details on the nature and extent of violence against men and women, the effects of this violence, information on abuse, harassment and on people's feelings of safety within the home and in the community. Users are able to manipulate the data, produce tabulations and undertake statistical analysis to their individual specifications.

Information about the data content, technical details and conditions of use is provided in Technical Manual: Personal Safety Survey, Australia, Expanded CURF, (cat. no. 4906.0.55.002).

This reissue corrects errors in a number of data items on the file. The former Violence level has been split into two levels:

Violence - prevalence; and
Violence - most recent incident (MRI).

Some data items have been removed from the file and some new data items have been added, and some

data items have been moved to the person level, from other levels of the file.

The Technical Manual: Personal Safety Survey, Australia, Expanded CURF, (cat. no. 4906.0.55.002) has also been reissued, and contains details of the corrections and changes to the CURF, and a revised data items list.

Microdata: Income and Housing, Basic and Expanded CURF, Australia, 2007-08 (Reissue) (cat. no. 6541.0.30.001)

Expected Release: 27 May 2011

This reissued file contains unit record data from the Survey of Income and Housing. It is available as a Basic CURF on CD-ROM, and as an Expanded CURF in the RADL and the ABS on-site Data Laboratory (ABSDL). The data have been confidentialised and as such contain no names and addresses and the detail for some items of data has been reduced. Subject to the limitation of sample size and the data classifications used, it is possible to manipulate the data, produce tabulations and undertake statistical analyses to individual specifications.

This release includes three corrections to the CURF files. An error with the weights has been corrected for a small number of records on the Basic CURF. Problems with two data items on the Person level CURF files (both Basic and Expanded) have also been corrected ('Parent or guardian flag' and 'Person number within income unit').

he publication, Technical Manual: Income and Housing, Australia, Expanded CURF 2007-08 (Reissue) (cat. no. 6541.0.30.001), explains the data content, technical details and conditions of use and should be used in conjunction with this CURF. An Excel spreadsheet listing all the data items available on the Expanded CURF accompanies the Technical Manual.

Microdata: Patients Experiences, Expanded CURF, Australia, 2009 (cat. no. 4839 0.55.001)

Expected Release: 31 May 2011

This microdata file provides national data on access and barriers to a range of health care services including general practitioners, medical specialists and other health professionals, imaging and pathology, after hours care and hospital/emergency departments. Data is also presented on patient experiences of care and information provision. It includes data from people that did not access health services as well as from those who did and enables analysis of health service information in relation to particular population groups.

For further future CURF releases please see our List of Expected and Available CURFs web page.

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A new CURF price will apply from 1 July 2011. This follows a review of the cost to provide access to CURFs.

The price for a single CURF will increase by \$110 and for bundled CURFs an increase of \$170. This price will be subject to annual indexation.

The following prices will apply from 1 July 2011:

CURF Access Type	New Price (inc GST)
Basic or Expanded CURF	\$1,540
Basic and Expanded CURF purchased concurrently (bundle)	\$2,310

CURFs are priced in accordance with [ABS Pricing Policy](#) and Commonwealth Cost Recovery Guidelines. The price covers the costs incurred by the ABS in providing access to CURFs and is charged per organisation rather than per person. Additional users of a CURF in an organisation will not incur additional charges.

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Survey TableBuilder



Coming soon!

TableBuilder datasets for Disability Ageing and Carers, 2009, Disability Ageing and Carers, 2003 and Education and Work, 2010 will be released in mid 2011.

Like the very popular Census TableBuilder released in 2009, this new TableBuilder is an online tool for creating tables and graphs from ABS data. Starting with an empty table, data variables can be selected for cross-tabulation to produce small or large tables. Tables can be exported in either CSV or Excel format and graphs in PDF format.

Initially, categorical variables will be available, but later in 2011 continuous variables will be added. Datasets for additional surveys will be released progressively.

Survey TableBuilder has been developed to increase access to unit record data. It complements the ABS' existing suite of microdata products and services, including Census TableBuilder and Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs).

A charge of \$850 per organisation will apply to Survey TableBuilder datasets.

TableBuilder has been jointly developed by the ABS and Space-Time Research.

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Help the ABS reward excellence in customer servicing

Have you recently experienced excellent customer service from an ABS staff member or team? Why not show your appreciation by nominating them for an Excellence in Customer Service Award. As a valued customer we would love to know what excellence in customer service means to you. [Nominate here.](#)

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Please tell us about your publications!

ABS Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs) are used by researchers for a very broad range of purposes, with the results of the analyses appearing in academic theses, journal articles, government reports and conference papers. Not of all of these publications are in the public domain but if yours is, then we would be delighted to include its citation on the ABS Published Research using CURF Microdata web pages.

The Published Research web pages promote your publications but also help ABS understand the range of research activities undertaken using CURFs.

You can submit information about your publications at any time by emailing a citation, URL or other reference to microdata.access@abs.gov.au.

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Microdata News is a quarterly newsletter produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

It includes information about new releases of microdata including; Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs), TableBuilder datasets and other access methods, as well as tips for users and news about developments in the ABS microdata world.

Previously known as CURF Microdata News.

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